

## REMARKS

Claims 1-36 and 41-45 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 3, 6, 8, 9, 11, 13, 15, 16, 20, 32, 33, 35 and 41 are amended. Claims 42-45 are new. Claims 37-40 have been canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the underlying subject matter. No new matter is introduced. Reconsideration and issuance of a Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

Applicant thanks Primary Examiner Leslie Wong for the courtesies extended to Applicant's representatives, Sean Wooden and Sumeet Magoon, during the in-person interview on June 1, 2005 (hereinafter "the interview"). During the interview, Applicant's representatives discussed proposed amendments to independent claims 1, 3, 15, 20, 32, 35 and 41 (as shown above). New independent claim 43 was also discussed (added). Applicant's representatives described the differences between the proposed amended claims as well as new claim 41, and the applied references. Examiner Wong agreed that the proposed claim amendments and features of the new claim overcome the applied references.

To further prosecution, Applicant has amended the claims and added new claims as discussed during the interview.

In paragraphs 3-4 of the Office Action, claims 1, 3, 15, 20, 32, 35, 37 and 41 have been rejected based on non-statutory double patenting rejection. The Office Action states that current claims 1, 3, 15, 20, 32, 35, 37 and 41 are anticipated by claims 1, 3, 21, 22 and 39 of U.S. Patent No. 6,760,720 ("the '720 patent"). As discussed during the interview, this rejection is traversed. Claim 37 has been canceled, thus the rejection with respect to claim 37 is moot. Independent claims 1 and 3 (as currently amended) and independent claims 15, 20, 32, 35 and 41 (original and as currently amended) are not anticipated by claims 1, 3, 21, 22 and 39 of the '720 patent. Applicant attaches herewith a terminal disclaimer to overcome the obviousness-type non-statutory double patenting rejection of paragraphs 3-4.

The Office Action rejects under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) claims 15-19 and 32-39 as being anticipated by Crandall et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,321,228 (hereinafter *Crandall*). The Office Action rejects under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) claims 1-3, 14, 20-21 and 41 as being unpatentable over Maloney et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,701,453 (hereinafter *Maloney*), in view of *Crandall*. Claim 40 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Crandall* in view of Mani et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,848,406 (hereinafter *Mani*). Claims 4-8 and 22-26 are rejected under 35

U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Maloney* in view of in view of *Crandall* and further in view of *Mani*. Claims 9-13 and 27-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Maloney* in view of *Crandall* and in view of *Mani* and further in view of Heckel, U.S. Patent No. 4,486,857 (hereinafter *Heckel*).

Independent claims 1, 3, 15, 20, 32, 35 and 41 have been amended and new claim 43 has been added as discussed during the interview. The rejections based on prior-art are rendered moot by the amendments and features of new claim 43. Allowance of claims 1-36 and 41-45 is respectfully requested.

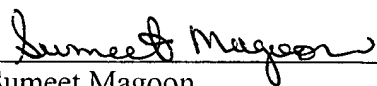
### CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants believe that all of the rejections against this application have been fully addressed and that the application is now in condition for allowance. Therefore, withdrawal of the outstanding objections and rejections and a notice of allowance for the application are respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes that a personal or telephonic interview would be of value in expediting the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned counsel to arrange for such a conference.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: **June 3, 2005**

  
Sumeet Magoon  
Reg. No. 43,769  
**ANDREWS KURTH LLP**  
1701 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 300  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
Telephone: (202) 662-2700  
Fax: (202) 662-2739

Enclosures